

### **REMARKS**

Applicants acknowledge the indication of allowable subject matter, i.e., that claims 5 and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 1-11 and 14-21 are pending in the application. The claims have been amended to delete the numbered steps, in order to avoid any confusion, and to replace "synchronized" with "reproduced by switching," thereby clarifying that the associated data is reproduced by switching with the AV data. Also, independent claim 1 and the other independent claims have been amended to recite that the associated data is reproduced in "the same reproduction time-line with the AV data." Further, as amended, claim 14 has been rewritten in independent form incorporating the subject matter of claim 12; and new claim 21 incorporates the subject matter of claim 13. Claims 12 and 13 have been canceled without prejudice. The amendments are fully supported by the application as originally filed.

Claims 11-14 were rejected under 35 USC 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. In response, claim 11 has been amended to recite an "apparatus, which can playback AV data, readable data recording medium." Claims 12 and 13 have been canceled without prejudice. Claim 14 has been rewritten in independent form to incorporate subject matter of claim 12, and to recite a "computer readable" recording medium. It is believed that the amendments overcome the rejection under 35 USC 101.

Independent claim 1 recites a method for recording, onto a recording medium, "AV data obtained by multiplexing a plurality of sets of stream data," and "associated data to be reproduced in the same reproduction time-line with the AV data," where the associated data is "reproduced by switching" with the AV data. Further, as recited in claim 1, file system management information is recorded for managing and handling the AV data and the associated data as different files. The other independent claims include similar limitations.

For example, referring to FIGS. 1(a) and 1(b) of the application, an original stream file (i.e., AV data) is divided into CUs (Continuous Units, i.e., partial AV data) before recording, and an after-recording data file (i.e., associated data) is divided into CAs (Continuous Areas, i.e., partial associated data). Also, referring to FIGS. 3(a) and 3(b), for example, the original stream file and the after-recording data file are managed as different files.

The claimed "file system management information" refers to information used to manage the original stream file and the after-recording data file as different files. The file system management information can include AVDP, VDS, FSD, FE, and FID, as shown in FIG. 3(b). *See, e.g.*, specification at page 20, line 23 to page 22, line 20.

By recording the file system management information, this allows an angle switching response similar to DVD-Video multi-angle switching. The recording also enables reproduction of the AV data file and the associated data file using a common MPEG-2 PS compatible decoder. *See, e.g.*, specification at page 52, lines 15-18.

Claims 1-4, 6-15, and 17-19 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2003/0103766 to Sugahara et al. ("Sugahara"). Claim 16 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sugahara. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Regarding the rejection of independent claim 1 (and the other independent claims) over Sugahara, the Sugahara reference does not teach or suggest that associated data is reproduced in "the same reproduction time-line with the AV data," or that the associated data is reproduced by switching with the AV data. Further, the Sugahara reference does not teach or suggest the recording of information needed to manage and handle the AV data and the associated data as different files.

Sugahara is directed to "an after-recording apparatus or a dubbing-in apparatus" for post-recording an audio signal in connection with audio data and video data (see, e.g., paragraph 0002 of Sugahara). As described in paragraph 0074, a user interface 109 can be operated in either a first mode to record main data (i.e., audio data and video data) or a second mode to record "after-recording-purpose audio data." As described in paragraph 0075, input video data are fed to a video encoder 101a which implements MPEG encoding of the input video data, and encoding-resultant video data are sent to a PES packeting device 102a which "converts the encoding-resultant video data into a sequence of PES packets." Similarly, input audio data are encoded, and sent to a PES packeting device 102b. As described in paragraph 0080, the PES packeting device 102b "adds the after-recording ID information to the encoding-resultant audio data," which are converted into PES packets.

In Sugahara, main data and after-recording audio data are reproduced in sync. There is no teaching or suggestion that associated data is reproduced in "the same reproduction time-line with the AV data," as claimed.

Further, there is no teaching or suggestion in Sugahara that file system management information is recorded for managing and handling the AV data and the associated data as different files.

As stated in paragraph 0101 of Sugahara, "link information relating to AV multiplexing-resultant files and after-recorded audio files is recorded on the recording medium 108."

Referring to paragraphs 0099-0100 and FIG. 8 of Sugahara, information pieces PRO.dat, etc. "are designed for link with AV multiplexing-resultant bit streams," and contain after-recorded audio files.

In other words, Sugahara merely discloses that links to "AV multiplexing-resultant bit streams" and after-recorded audio files are stored on a recording medium.

There is no teaching or suggestion in Sugahara of recording file system management information for managing partial AV data and partial associated data **as different files** and managing information for "handling the AV data and the associated data as the different files," as recited in independent claim 1 (and the other independent claims).

It is believed that the claims are in condition for immediate allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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